(d) whether Government have received any representations forwarded by MPs against the levy of the property tax on the shopkeepers; if so, the details thereof and the action Government have taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB) : (a) In respect of the notices under Section 126 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 issued upto 31-3-1988, the reteable values have already been fixed and property tax bills are being issued from year to year. In respect of the period after 1-4-1988, the notices have been issued in 1990-91 and 1991-92. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that no separate record is immediately available about the notices issued in respect of the shops in J.J. Colonies for which licence fee is paid to the DDA authority.

(b) and (c) Where the property is let, the property tax is payable by the lesser and where the property is unlet, by the person who has a capacity to let. As such no policy decision is required to tax or not to tax a property.

(d) From the record in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and this Ministry, it appears that no such representation was forwarded.

Demand for Gorkha Home Land

262. SHRI P. UPENDRA: will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council has revived its demand for a Gorkha Home Land and gave a sixty day ultimatum to Government seeking clarifications on the status of the hill areas; and

(b) if so, what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (d) Shri SuhhashGhising, President of the Gorkha National Liberation Front has sent communications to the Government requesting to clarify the 'legal' status of the Darjeeling Hill areas, in the context of Indo Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950. Government, however, is of the firm view that since Darjeeling is an integral part of the country there is no room for any ambiguity about its legal status, and thus no further clarification is required.

Bandhs in Valley of Kashmir

263. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bandhs observed in the valley of Kashmir in 1980, 1989,1990 together with the reasons therefor; and

(b) what have been the impacts of these bandhs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b) During these three years on numerous occassions calls for Bandhs in different parts of Kashmir Valley have been given by terrorist outfits and some other organisations and groups. Their observance have been of varying degrees. The frequency of calls for bandhs and near total hartals have progressively gone up. The calls have been primarile (i) to protest alleged excesses by security forces; (ii) to express solidarity with Pakistan; (iii) against Indian national events; and (iv) to commemorate specific days or protest against specific events. Bandhs, when successfully observed have disrupted the normal life and commercial and other activities in the valley.

Bomb Blasts in Jammu

264. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of bomb blasts that occurred in Jammu during 1991 together with the number of persons injured/ killed as a result thereof;

(b) what compensation have been paid in each case; and

(c) what were the reasons for these blasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MM. JACOB): (a)